



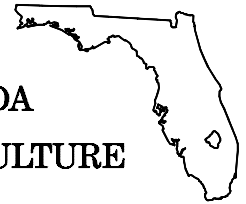
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LIVESTOCK DAIRY & POULTRY

LDP-05-04

FLORIDA AGRICULTURE



April 2005

TOPICS IN THIS REPORT

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Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 10.9 million head on April 1, 2005. The inventory was 1 percent above April 1, 2004 and 1 percent above April 1, 2003. The inventory included 6.99 million steers and steer calves, up 5 percent from the previous year. This group accounted for 64 percent of the total inventory. Heifers and heifer calves accounted for 3.80 million head, down 6 percent from 2004.

Placements in feedlots during March totaled 1.76 million, 3 percent below 2004 and 13 percent below 2003. This is the second lowest placements for the month of March since the series began in 1996. Net placements were 1.69 million. During March, placements

of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 299,000, 600-699 pounds were 320,000, 700-799 pounds were 614,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 527,000.

Marketings of fed cattle during March totaled 1.97 million, up slightly from 2004 and 9 percent above 2003.

Other disappearance totaled 69,000 during March, 3 percent above 2004 and 11 percent above 2003.

CATTLE ON FEED: U.S. Number Placed on Feed, by weight groups, 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots, March 2004, February and March 2005

| Month | Less than 600 lbs | 600-699 lbs | 700-799 lbs | 800+ lbs | Total |
|-------------------|-------------------|-------------|-------------|----------|-------|
| <i>1,000 head</i> | | | | | |
| March | 347 | 347 | 646 | 470 | 1,810 |
| February | 277 | 308 | 526 | 412 | 1,523 |
| March | 299 | 320 | 614 | 527 | 1,760 |

CATTLE AND CALVES ON FEED, 1,000+ CAPACITY FEEDLOTS, AND UNITED STATES

| State | Number on feed March 1 | | | Placed during March | | | Marketed during March | | | Other disappearance during March | | | Number on feed April 1 | | |
|-----------|------------------------|--------|----------------|---------------------|-------|----------------|-----------------------|-------|----------------|----------------------------------|------|----------------|------------------------|--------|----------------|
| | 2004 | 2005 | 2005-04 | 2004 | 2005 | 2005-04 | 2004 | 2005 | 2005-04 | 2004 | 2005 | 2005-04 | 2004 | 2005 | 2005-04 |
| | <i>1,000 head</i> | | <i>Percent</i> | <i>1,000 head</i> | | <i>Percent</i> | <i>1,000 head</i> | | <i>Percent</i> | <i>1,000 head</i> | | <i>Percent</i> | <i>1,000 head</i> | | <i>Percent</i> |
| AZ | 295 | 322 | 109 | 33 | 27 | 82 | 32 | 24 | 75 | 3 | 2 | 67 | 293 | 323 | 110 |
| CA | 500 | 315 | 103 | 70 | 65 | 93 | 71 | 70 | 99 | 4 | 10 | 250 | 495 | 500 | 101 |
| CO | 1,020 | 1,040 | 102 | 150 | 175 | 117 | 190 | 185 | 97 | 10 | 10 | 100 | 970 | 1,020 | 105 |
| ID | 265 | 250 | 94 | 39 | 44 | 113 | 46 | 53 | 115 | 3 | 1 | 33 | 255 | 240 | 94 |
| IA | 405 | 465 | 115 | 69 | 55 | 80 | 56 | 64 | 114 | 3 | 1 | 33 | 415 | 455 | 110 |
| KS | 2,390 | 2,370 | 99 | 460 | 445 | 97 | 470 | 460 | 98 | 20 | 15 | 75 | 2,360 | 2,340 | 99 |
| NE | 2,270 | 2,320 | 102 | 295 | 300 | 102 | 350 | 350 | 100 | 5 | 10 | 200 | 2,210 | 2,260 | 102 |
| NM | 112 | 125 | 112 | 16 | 13 | 81 | 21 | 23 | 110 | 2 | 2 | 100 | 105 | 113 | 108 |
| OK | 335 | 340 | 101 | 74 | 61 | 82 | 77 | 73 | 95 | 2 | 3 | 150 | 330 | 325 | 98 |
| SD | 210 | 210 | 100 | 33 | 31 | 94 | 36 | 34 | 94 | 2 | 2 | 100 | 205 | 205 | 100 |
| TX | 2,690 | 2,690 | 100 | 490 | 480 | 98 | 530 | 540 | 102 | 10 | 10 | 100 | 2,640 | 2,620 | 99 |
| WA | 185 | 185 | 100 | 35 | 22 | 63 | 34 | 47 | 138 | 1 | 1 | 100 | 185 | 159 | 86 |
| Oth. Sts. | 310 | 320 | 103 | 46 | 42 | 91 | 54 | 50 | 93 | 2 | 2 | 100 | 300 | 310 | 103 |
| U.S. | 10,987 | 11,153 | 102 | 1,810 | 1,760 | 97 | 1,967 | 1,973 | 100 | 67 | 69 | 103 | 10,763 | 10,870 | 101 |

AVERAGE PRICES, NEBRASKA, DOLLARS PER CWT

| Week ended | Slaughter steers Choice 1150-1500 lbs | | | | Slaughter heifers Choice 1000-1300 lbs | | | |
|------------|--|--|-------|--|---|--|-------|--|
| | 2004 | | 2005 | | 2004 | | 2005 | |
| Mar 26 | 83.20 | | 91.03 | | 82.99 | | 91.36 | |
| Apr 02 | 83.86 | | 94.44 | | 83.68 | | 94.22 | |
| Apr 09 | 86.22 | | 90.38 | | 86.21 | | 90.63 | |

CHICKENS AND EGGS

FLORIDA

Table eggs sold in mid-April 2005 averaged 30.0 cents, down 3.0 cents from mid-March. Table egg production in Florida during March was 250 million eggs, up eight percent from the previous month.

UNITED STATES

U.S. egg production totaled 7.73 billion during March 2005, up two percent from last year. Production included 6.60 billion table eggs, and 1.13 billion hatching eggs, of which 1.07 billion were broiler-type and 63 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during March 2005 averaged 347 million, up two percent from a year earlier. March egg production per 100 layers was 2,225 eggs, up one percent from March 2004.

All layers in the U.S. on April 1, 2005, totaled 345 million, up one percent from a year ago. The 345 million layers consisted of 286 million layers producing table or market type eggs, 56.9 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 2.63 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on April 1, 2005, averaged 71.8 eggs per 100 layers, down slightly from a year ago.

MID-MONTH TABLE EGG PRICES RECEIVED BY FLORIDA EGG PRODUCERS.

| Month | Cents per dozen | |
|-----------|-----------------|------|
| | 2004 | 2005 |
| January | 81.0 | 40.0 |
| February | 81.0 | 36.0 |
| March | 101.0 | 33.0 |
| April | 67.0 | 30.0 |
| May | 52.0 | |
| June | 53.0 | |
| July | 46.0 | |
| August | 40.0 | |
| September | 34.0 | |
| October | 36.0 | |
| November | 46.0 | |
| December | 53.0 | |

FLORIDA: Layers on hand first of month, percent molting and molted

| | Apr 2004 | Feb 2005 | Mar 2005 | Apr 2005 |
|------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Total layers on hand: Thous. | 11,903 | 10,122 | 10,806 | 10,737 |
| Percent of layers: | | | | |
| Being molted | 2.0 | 7.5 | 2.5 | 3.0 |
| Molt completed | 29.5 | 19.5 | 28.5 | 25.0 |

LAYERS AND EGG PRODUCTION, JANUARY 2005, PRODUCTION YEAR-TO-DATE EGG PRODUCTION FOR SELECTED STATES

| Selected States | Average layers on hand | Eggs per 100 layers | Egg production | | | | Layers | |
|-----------------|------------------------|---------------------|----------------|------------|----------|----------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| | | | Total | Table | Hatching | Year to date ^{1/} | Being molted | Molt completed |
| | <i>Thousand</i> | | | | | | <i>Percent</i> | |
| Alabama | 9,117 | 1,974 | 180 | 42 | 138 | 705 | 0.5 | 4.5 |
| Arkansas | 14,924 | 1,963 | 293 | 99 | 194 | 1,136 | 0.5 | 8.5 |
| California | 20,845 | 2,226 | 464 | | | 1,808 | 7.5 | 33.5 |
| Florida | 10,772 | 2,404 | 259 | 250 | 9 | 957 | 3.0 | 25.0 |
| Georgia | 20,335 | 2,100 | 427 | 248 | 179 | 1,692 | 5.5 | 13.5 |
| Indiana | 23,631 | 2,247 | 531 | 519 | 12 | 2,053 | 3.0 | 32.0 |
| Iowa | 49,136 | 2,312 | 1,136 | | | 6,316 | 4.0 | 35.0 |
| Maine | 2,975 | 1,076 | 32 | | | 166 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Maryland | 2,966 | 2,293 | 68 | 67 | 1 | 283 | 11.0 | 31.1 |
| Michigan | 8,017 | 2,308 | 185 | | | 674 | 5.0 | 26.5 |
| Minnesota | 11,000 | 2,300 | 253 | 245 | 8 | 982 | 0.0 | 25.0 |
| Mississippi | 7,133 | 1,977 | 141 | 37 | 104 | 535 | 2.0 | 9.5 |
| Missouri | 7,342 | 2,261 | 166 | | | 641 | 2.0 | 19.0 |
| Nebraska | 12,061 | 2,189 | 264 | 264 | 0 | 1,056 | 9.0 | 24.5 |
| New York | 4,163 | 2,426 | 101 | | | 394 | 2.5 | 5.0 |
| North Carolina | 10,997 | 1,973 | 217 | 78 | 139 | 848 | 0.9 | 8.4 |
| Ohio | 28,089 | 2,271 | 638 | | | 2,474 | 4.0 | 22.5 |
| Pennsylvania | 24,399 | 2,398 | 585 | 568 | 17 | 2,248 | 3.0 | 15.0 |
| South Carolina | 4,995 | 2,182 | 109 | 90 | 19 | 459 | 7.5 | 24.5 |
| Texas | 17,846 | 2,247 | 401 | | | 1,678 | 4.0 | 20.5 |
| Virginia | 3,339 | 1,887 | 62 | 26 | 37 | 250 | 8.5 | 2.0 |
| Washington | 4,924 | 2,417 | 115 | | | 454 | 10.5 | 31.5 |
| Other States | 48,249 | 2,234 | 493 | 397 | 97 | 1,932 | 4.1 | 23.6 |
| United States | 347,255 | 2,225 | 7,726 | 6,598 | 1,129 | 29,951 | 4.1 | 22.6 |

^{1/} Production year begins December 1.

HATCHERY PRODUCTION

FLORIDA

The March hatch of broiler-type chicks, at 4,947,000 was slightly below a year earlier. Broiler-type eggs in incubators on April 1, at 4,075,000, were 17 percent below a year ago.

Egg-type hatch during March at 656,000 chicks was eight percent above last year. Egg-type eggs in incubators on April 1, at 815,000 were 15 percent above a year ago.

UNITED STATES

The March 2005 hatch of broiler-type chicks, at 816 million, was up three percent from March of the previous year. There were 658 million eggs in incubators on April 1, 2005, up one percent from a year earlier.

Leading breeders placed 7.08 million broiler-type pullet chicks for future domestic hatchery supply flocks during March 2005, up four percent from March 2004.

Egg-type chicks hatched during March totaled 40.0 million, up six percent from March 2004. Eggs in incubators totaled 34.1 million on April 1, 2005, up two percent from a year ago.

Domestic placements of egg-type pullet chicks for future hatchery supply flocks by leading breeders totaled 314,000 during March 2005, down 22 percent from March 2004.

HATCHERY PRODUCTION, UNITED STATES

| Item | 2004 | 2005 | 2005 % of 2004 |
|--|---------|---------|----------------------|
| <i>-- Thousands --</i> | | | |
| EGG-TYPE: | | | |
| Eggs in incubators: Apr 1 | 33,311 | 34,086 | 102 |
| Chicks hatched during Mar | 37,545 | 39,888 | 106 |
| Pullets hatched during Mar for intended placements in hatchery supply flocks | 401 | 314 | 78 |
| 7-18 months earlier ^{1/} | 2,927 | 3,210 | 110 |
| BROILER-TYPE: | | | |
| Eggs in incubators: Apr 1 | 653,401 | 658,034 | 101 |
| Chicks hatched during Mar | 791,915 | 815,782 | 103 |
| Pullets hatched during Mar for intended placements in hatchery supply flocks | 6,815 | 7,077 | 104 |
| 7-15 months earlier ^{2/} | 61,421 | 62,794 | 102 |

^{1/} 2005 includes pullet chicks hatched September 2003 through August 2004.

^{2/} 2005 includes pullet chicks hatched December 2003 through August 2004.

MILK PRODUCTION

FLORIDA

Florida dairy farms produced 227 million pounds of milk during March 2005, six percent above the previous March. Production per cow of 1,635 pounds was five percent above last year. Milk cow numbers on Florida dairy farms in March totaled 139,000, slightly above last year.

UNITED STATES

Milk production in the 23 major States during March totaled 13.8 billion pounds, up 3.1 percent from March 2004. February revised production, at 12.3 billion pounds, was down 0.5 percent from February 2004. However, production was up 3.1 percent on a per day basis after adjusting for the leap year. The February revision represented an increase of 30 million pounds or 0.2 percent from last month's preliminary production estimate.

Production per cow in the 23 major States averaged 1,704 pounds for March, 43 pounds above March 2004.

The number of milk cows on farms in the 23 major States was 8.10 million head, 38,000 head more than March 2004, and 21,000 head more than February 2005.

MILK COWS AND PRODUCTION, FLORIDA AND U.S.

| Month and year | | Milk cows | Monthly milk production | |
|-------------------------|------|---------------|----------------------------|------------------|
| | | | Per cow | Monthly Total |
| | | <i>Thous.</i> | <i>Lbs.</i> | <i>Mil. Lbs.</i> |
| FLORIDA: | | | | |
| March | 2004 | 138 | 1,550 | 214 |
| February | 2005 | 139 | 1,475 | 205 |
| March | 2005 | 139 | 1,635 | 227 |
| 20 MAJOR STATES: | | | | |
| March | 2004 | 8,059 | 1,661 | 13,387 |
| February | 2005 | 8,076 | 1,519 | 12,270 |
| March | 2005 | 8,097 | 1,704 | 13,799 |
| UNITED STATES: | | | | |
| March | 2004 | 9,002 | 1,640 | 14,762 |
| February | 2005 | 8,982 | 1,502 | 13,490 |
| March | 2005 | 9,010 | 1,684 | 15,172 |

MILK PRODUCTION BY QUARTERS, UNITED STATES

| Month | Milk cows ^{1/} | | Milk per cow ^{2/} | | Milk production | |
|-----------------|-------------------------|-------|----------------------------|-------|------------------|--------|
| | 2004 | 2005 | 2004 | 2005 | 2004 | 2005 |
| | <i>Thousand</i> | | <i>Pounds</i> | | <i>Mil. Lbs.</i> | |
| Jan-Mar | 8,993 | 8,995 | 4,755 | 4,807 | 42,759 | 43,238 |
| Apr-Jun | 9,001 | | 4,869 | | 43,824 | |
| Jul-Sep | 9,027 | | 4,679 | | 42,239 | |
| Oct-Dec | 9,019 | | 4,655 | | 41,983 | |
| Annual Total | 9,010 | | 18,957 | | 170,805 | |

^{1/} Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.

^{2/} Excludes milk fed to calves.

LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER

Commercial red meat output in Florida for March 2005 was 4.1 million pounds, 16 percent below the same month last year.

Commercial production of red meat in the United States for March at 3.88 billion pounds, was two percent below 2004.

COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER AND RED MEAT PRODUCTION, FLORIDA AND UNITED STATES

| Source and kind | March 2004 | February 2005 | March 2005 | Year to date 2004 | Year to date 2005 |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|------------------|---------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| FLORIDA | | | | | |
| HOGS: | | | | | |
| Head slaughtered (1,000 head) | 9 | 6 | 7 | 25 | 20 |
| Total liveweight (1,000 pounds) | 1,598 | 1,094 | 1,451 | 4,325 | 3,671 |
| SHEEP AND LAMBS: | | | | | |
| Head slaughtered (1,000 head) | 0.4 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.8 | 0.6 |
| Total liveweight (1,000 pounds) | 22 | 10 | 16 | 53 | 38 |
| Red meat production (million pounds) | 4.9 | 4.1 | 4.1 | 14.0 | 12.7 |
| UNITED STATES | | | | | |
| CATTLE: | | | | | |
| Head slaughtered (1,000 head) | 2,869 | 2,341 | 2,723 | 7,875 | 7,592 |
| Total liveweight (million pounds) | 3,492 | 2,937 | 3,372 | 9,705 | 9,499 |
| Average liveweight (pounds) | 1,217 | 1,234 | 1,238 | 1,232 | 1,251 |
| Beef production (million pounds) | 2,108 | 1,767 | 2,043 | 5,836 | 5,725 |
| CALVES: | | | | | |
| Head slaughtered (1,000 head) | 76 | 62 | 68 | 227 | 198 |
| Total liveweight (million pounds) | 24 | 20 | 22 | 78 | 64 |
| Average liveweight (pounds) | 308 | 328 | 328 | 326 | 328 |
| Veal production (million pounds) | 14 | 12 | 13 | 45 | 38 |
| HOGS: | | | | | |
| Head slaughtered (1,000 head) | 9,039 | 8,104 | 8,946 | 25,715 | 25,528 |
| Total liveweight (million pounds) | 2,421 | 2,187 | 2,423 | 6,898 | 6,898 |
| Average liveweight (pounds) | 268 | 270 | 271 | 268 | 270 |
| Pork production (million pounds) | 1,801 | 1,629 | 1,803 | 5,130 | 5,136 |
| SHEEP AND LAMBS: | | | | | |
| Head slaughtered (1,000 head) | 307 | 215 | 280 | 739 | 704 |
| Total liveweight (1,000 pounds) | 44 | 30 | 39 | 105 | 98 |
| LAMB AND MUTTON: | 22 | 15 | 20 | 52 | 49 |
| Red meat production (million pounds) | 3,945 | 3,423 | 3,879 | 11,064 | 10,949 |